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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 29 November 1950

SUBJECT 1. Registrations for the Volkspolizei
2. Increase of the Volkspolizei

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1. On 23 September 1950, it was learned that all male employees and workers of the nationalized shipyard of Stralsund (N 55/P 44) underwent an X-ray examination in the former German naval hospital in mid-August 1950. The examination was performed by a commission of German physicians. The registration form contained in addition to name, address, the result of the examination, and other personal data, questions on the examinee's last military unit, and his military rank at time of discharge.
2. On 16 September 1950, it was learned that about 10 September 1950 the SED had ordered the party group of a firm in Potsdam to list all 22 to 35-year-old male employees and report them to the Volkspolizei through the SED. It was said that this registration was preparatory to the compilation of rosters of draftees.
3. In late September 1950, [redacted] was given a last chance to volunteer for service with the Volkspolizei. He was told that, unless he signed up before 4 October 1950, he would be compulsorily drafted by 15 October 1950. It was rumored that a universal military service law would soon be introduced in the German Democratic Republic (DDR).
4. In October 1950, [redacted] who allegedly had excellent connections in the Soviet Zone German Government, said that on orders of the SOC the strength of the Bereitschaftspolizei was being raised by 52,000 police. The towns at which new police posts would be established included Wittenberg (N 52/E 37), Altenburg (N 51/K 27), Gera (N 51/K 06), Zeitz (N 52/K 08), Apolda (N 52/J 67) and Delitzsch (N 52/E 13). It was said that the police units which would be activated under this program would primarily consist of technical and armored units. *

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* [redacted] Comment. No information has been received on plans to quarter new VP units in the towns mentioned. The 9th VP Bereitschaft in Gera and the 10th VP Bereitschaft in Apolda have been repeatedly confirmed. The towns of Wittenberg, Altenburg and Zeitz are so heavily occupied by the 6th Gds Tank Div, Eighth Gds Army headquarters units, and the 67th Gds Mecz Regt

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respectively that it appears unlikely that major VP units should be quartered there for the present. Allowing for the probability that the Volkspolizei strength may be slightly increased by the enrollment of new trainees at the schools, an increase by 52,000 men is considered improbable. It is possible that, following a political enlightenment campaign focusing on the West German participation in the European Army, a universal police service law may be introduced in the DDR. Clear indications of preparations for such a law have not been observed, however.

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